(c) if so, the number of doctors ... on ad hoc and daily wage basis since 1978; and

(d) the reasons for this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): ... is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Upgradation of Government hospitals in Assam

1975. SHRI DV. UPENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to upgrade the Government hospitals functioning at present in the State of Assam during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to augment the facilities by providing assistance for equipment upto Rs. 1.00 crore for selected District hospitals of Assam.

Transfusion of untested blood

†1976. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the blood collecting units and doctors who are transfusing blood are not testing it prior to its use;

(b) if so, the action being taken against such units and doctors;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, 'Bahar se Kharida Rakt Sankramit Nikla, Mareez ko Jaan ke Lale', which appeared in 'The Rashtriya Sahara' dated the 6th June, 2002; and

(d) the number of such cases which came to the notice of Government from January, 2001 to till date and the action taken by Government in each case?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.